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PTC/SB/30 (05-03) Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Request Application Number 09/176,077 For October 20, 1998 Filing Date Continued Examination (RCE) First Named Inventor A. Green Transmittal Address to: 2176 Art Unit Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents W. L. Bashore Examiner Name P.O. Box 1450 CA9-98-038 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Attorney Docket Number This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s). Previously symmitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be Lx. considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on Amendment After Final submitted June 3, 2003 Enclosed Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Amendment/Reply Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s) Other Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required) The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. 3. Fees The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 09/0461 - RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.135 and 1.17) Other Check in the amount of \$ Payment by credit card (from PTO-2038 enclosed) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 35,137 Name (Print/Type) Signature CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimite transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below. 703-746-7239 fax transmission 4 sheets total Dianne Lane Name (Print/Type) 07/29/2003 KWA 38H+01/0000002 090461 091/60//

01 FC:1801 02 FC:1252 This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, the paying, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. The will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of the Uspto. The should be sent to the Christ Information Office, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Popartment of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mall Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, cell 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.